

Expanded Use of Emergency Financial Assistance for Medication Access in Virginia

Start date of policy revision: September 12, 2018

End date of policy revision: 31 March 2019

Purpose: To provide emergency access to medications for Ryan White eligible clients. The Virginia Department of Health (VDH) is expanding access to medications through the ADAP and Emergency Financial Assistance (EFA) under Ryan White Part B funding to allow **short-term** payments for **emergency** needs, including medication, but does not allow direct cash payments to clients.

Providers can use EFA for medications on VDH's non-ADAP/Part B formulary. In statewide emergencies, the funding may also provide access to medications on the VA ADAP and ACA formularies. The reimbursements will cover costs that another third party does not cover.

1. Inform your HCS Services Coordinator that you plan to use EFA for medications. If you are unsure how much funding you will need, please communicate regularly with your Services Coordinator who will monitor your budget to assure your agency has enough funding. **If it is a statewide emergency, you do not need prior approval from your Services Coordinator.**
2. You may use EFA to purchase a 30-day supply of a medication **up to two times for each client** through 31 March 2019. **We will reimburse for only 30-days at a time and there must be at least 25-days before the next fill for any medication.** Agencies may not use EFA on an ongoing basis to pay for medication for a client. Please assure the client is enrolled in ADAP, Medicaid, or other insurance coverage option.
3. Fill out the "Emergency Financial Assistance for Medication Access in Virginia" form (attached).
4. Send the supportive documentation with your monthly invoices through HCS' secure email. The form assures the correct reimbursement to your agencies and helps VDH accurately track programmatic costs for medications.

If you have any questions about how to use EFA for emergency medication access, please contact your HIV Services Coordinator or Mary Browder, Lead HIV Services Coordinator at Mary.Browder@vdh.virginia.gov or 804-864-7199.